Panchayats/Gaon Sabhas as well as rural Youth and Sports clubs will be mobilized to facilitate development of the requisite infrastructure and for the identification of talent through and appropriate competition structure in the rural areas as also in the disadvantaged and remote parts of the country including the North East which appear to merit special consideration under various schemes. The available talent will be nourished and actively supported. Geographically disadvantaged regions will be extended additional support for the promotion of sports.

Broad-basing of sports and promoting excellence have been emphasized in the National Sports Policy. Efforts will be made to ensure that schools and colleges in both urban and rural areas, local bodies, sports associations, youth and sports clubs and industry are fully associated with this programme. A detailed action plan is being formulated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in this regard to facilitate implementation of this policy.

BCCI Dispute with ICC

1063. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the case of BCCI pending with ICC;

(b) what is Government's reaction with regard to the stand taken by the BCCI against the orders of ICC; and

(c) what steps are being taken to protect the self respect of the country, the interest of our players and the game as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) The information is being collected from the BCCI and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c): The Government has no role to play in this regard and it considers that this issue is required to be sorted out by the Cricket Baords of the concerned countries and ICC.